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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/866,897 Confirmation No. 5586
Applicant: Leighton et al.
Filed: May 29, 2001
Art Unit: 2157
Examiner: El Chanti, Hussein A.
For: **GLOBAL LOAD BALANCING ACROSS MIRRORED DATA CENTERS**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This amendment is filed together with a Request for Continued Examination under Rule 114. In addition, this amendment responds to the office action mailed July 13, 2005. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested, for the reasons set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 3, and please amend claims 1-2, 4, 7 and 12-14 as set forth below.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.